

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB.

Circular No. 40

February 8th. 1960

MEETING. The Annual General Meeting of the Club will be held on Thursday, Feb. 18th. at the Tasmanian Museum at 8 p.m. Mr. L.E. Wall will deliver the Presidential Address.

OUTING. On Saturday, Feb. 20th. to Mt. Wellington, alpine moors; private transport to Mt. Arthur bend on Pinnacle Road. Meet near "Mercury" office 9.45 a.m.

EASTER CAMP. Rheben seems to be favoured for the Easter Camp this year. You will hear more about this at the General Meeting.

SUBSCRIPTIONS. 1960 subscriptions are now due and should be paid to the Treasurer or at Mr. Sargison's shop, 21 Elizabeth St. Members should note that the new rates as agreed at the November meeting are:-

Adults 10/-

Married Couples a combined subscription of 15/-,

Attendance of Committee Members for 1959.

5 Committee meeting were held and were attended as follows:-	Mr. L. Wall	5
	Mr. A. Hewer	2
	Mr. K. Aves	5
	Mrs. E. Thorpe	4
	Mr. F. Green	5
	Mrs. L. Luckman	4
	Miss A. Wall	5
	Mr. M. Sharland	1 (Overseas several months)
	Mr. A. Brownell	4
	Mr. B. Fildicombe	5
	Mr. J. Lewis	5

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1960.

The Committee decided that nominations should be called for in writing, with the Nominee's consent to serve.

If sufficient nominations are received by the Secretary before the meeting no further nominations will be called for. The offices to be filled are: President 1, Vice Presidents 2, Secretary 1, Assistant Secretary 1, Treasurer 1, Committee Members 6. A nomination form is printed below and you are urged to make use of this. Further forms may be obtained from the Secretary.

Kelsey Aves. (Hon. Sec.)

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB 1960.

I wish to nominate for the office of

Signed

Seconded by

I agree to serve if elected

Signed

MEETINGS: The next meeting of the Club will be held on **THURSDAY, MARCH 17th.** at the Tasmanian Museum, at 8 p.m. A talk will most probably be given by a visiting speaker, but as yet arrangements are not certain.

PLEASE NOTE: The **APRIL** meeting will be held in the Museum on **APRIL 28th, the FOURTH THURSDAY - not the third.** The Speaker will be Mr. M.S.R. SHARLAND, recently returned from overseas, and his subject will be "AN OUTING IN CANADA". Advance notice is given in this circular because of reorganisation of the distribution of circulars (see below)

OUTINGS: An outing will be held on **SATURDAY 19th. MARCH** with emphasis on study of fossils and waterbirds in the Granton-Lime Kilns area. 10 a.m. train to Granton. Chief "answerer of questions" for the day will be Mr. Len Wall.

SUNDAY 3rd. APRIL, RHEBAN: A trip to the campsite will be the outing for this occasion and all members are asked to lend a hand with preparations for the Easter Camp. Members who are prepared to take cars will be greatly appreciated, and all will meet outside the Mercury Office at 9.00 a.m. Please bring lunch and billy for tea.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: We would like to remind those who are still unfinancial for the current year that subs. are due and may be paid to the Treasurer at the next meeting or at his place of work, Woolworths, Eliz. St. or to Mr. Sargison, 21 Elizabeth St.

CIRCULARS: As from next month, we are instituting a new system with regard to the monthly circular. These will give details of activities in advance and members will be able to collect their circulars for the following month at the meeting. Those not collected will be posted the following day. We hope to save considerable postage in this manner.

The following office bearers were elected at the **ANNUAL MEETING** of February 18th. 1960.
PRESIDENT: Mr. L. Wall. **VICE PRESIDENTS:** Dr. A. Nicholls and Mr. K. Aves.
HON. SECRETARY: Mr. D. Wilson. **HON. ASSIST. SEC:** Mrs. Thorpe. **HON. TREASURER:** Mr. J. Lewis.
COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Mrs. A. Button, Miss A. Wall, Messrs. A. Brownell, M. Hurburgh, A. Yeoland, J. Lucas. **HON. AUDITOR:** Miss R. Warren.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: Mr. F. Swann, Dr. A. Nicholls (elected by Executive)
FEDERATION OF FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUBS OF TASMANIA: Miss A. Wall, Mr. M. Sharland.
GOOD NEIGHBOUR COUNCIL: Dr. M. Thynne, Mrs. C. Boden.
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE for BIRD PRESERVATION: Messrs. L. Wall and M. Sharland.

Commencing Wed. 9th. March a Ten Weeks course of lectures entitled **TASMANIAN MARSUPIALS** will be held by the Adult Education Board. Fee 30/- Hours 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. Bookings A.E.B. rooms 85 Elizabeth St.

David Wilson
 HON. SEC.

QUIZ - QUEST. (From "Canadian Nature")

1. Do ants converse with their antennae?
2. Do ants grow wedding wings?
3. Do ants practice chemical warfare?
4. Do ants have cows?
5. Do ants build stables for their cows?
6. Does temperature affect the ants' speed?
7. Do ants have toilet aids?
8. Do ants flout a Federal law?

Yes, ants seem to use their antennae in communication. The antennae are thought to combine hearing, smelling and touch senses.
 Yes, they have mass marriages and fly together on their honeymoon flight.
 Yes, in battle they expel formic acid at their enemies.
 Yes, they milk aphids for honey dew, and feed them like any human dairy farmer.
 Yes, they build tiny shelters and go to work and vegetable material in order to shroud themselves from the temperature, the slower the ant.
 Yes, they have tiny combs on their elbows and other toilet aids.
 Yes, they are notorious kidnappers and raid the nurseries of neighbouring hills.

OFFICIAL NO. 42

MAY 1960.

MEMBERS: The next General meeting of the Club will be held on May 19th. 1960 at 8 p.m. in Royal Society Rooms, Museum, Argyll Street. Featured entertainment will be the Review of the Rheban Master Camp. Be there to see how everyone fared at the Camp- and be prepared for a laugh or two.

CLUB PATRON. Members will be delighted to know that His Excellency the Governor, Lord Rowallan, has kindly accepted the office of Club Patron. A copy of "The Naturalist", giving some details of the history of the T.F.N.C., was sent for His Excellency's perusal.

EXHIBITS. An approach has been made to Dr. Fryden, Director of the Museum, about the possibility of having exhibits, not taken away by Club members after meetings, left at the Museum in case use can be found for them in Museum work. Dr. Fryden greatly appreciated the suggestion and in the future left over exhibits may be used in displays for school children etc. Any material which cannot be identified may also be left and identification will be carried out for the next monthly meeting.

OUTINGS. Saturday, 30th. April. O'Grady's Falls. A very pleasant mountain ramble- plenty of scope for botanists and bird lovers. 10 o'clock Ferntree Bus from Franklin Square and alight at top end of Strickland Ave. to take the track to O'Grady's Falls.

Saturday 14th. May. National Park-Lake Menton. This trip is primarily to visit the area at the time the deciduous beech (*Parus Gunii*) is at its best in autumn tones. Private transport will be required, and any assistance in this regard will be greatly appreciated. Given good weather the *Parus* should be a wonderful sight and photographers should take their cameras. Meet at 9 a.m. outside the Prince Theatre.

PAST OUTINGS. A good number of members, about 24, made a trip to Cranton, the Lime Kilns and Fossil Quarries last month under Mr. Len Wall's guidance. Many ducks were seen on the Sanctuary and members browsed over the beds of fossils nearby. The trip to Rheban to make preparations for the Easter Camp was unfortunately attended by only a small party, but they had a most enjoyable day.

David Wilson.

Hon. Sec.

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB.

CIRCULAR No. 43

JUNE 1960

The next meeting of the Club will be held in the Royal Society Rooms, Museum, Argyle St. on June 16th, 1960 at 8 p.m. The speaker will be DR. A.G. NICHOLLS, of C.S.I.R.O. Hobart and he will speak on "MAN'S INFLUENCE ON FISHING WATERS of the MT. KOSCIUSKO REGION".

Rule 20: Amendment to the Club Rules.

The following addition to the Club rules, moved by Mr. Wall and seconded by Mr. D. Wilson, will come before the next meeting of the Club for debate. "In the event of any claim being made against the Club, the liability of each member of the Club shall be limited to a levy equal to one years subscription."

SUBSCRIPTIONS. No more circulars can be sent to you if you are unfinancial. If you have not renewed, please do so without delay. If you have a red cross on your circular here, our records show you as being unfinancial.

WEST AUSTRALIAN WILD FLOWERS. Film Screening at Town Hall. Just a reminder- come along and bring your friends to the public screening of W.A. Wild Flowers (by courtesy of W.A. Midland Railway Co.) to be shown at the Town Hall, on Monday 30th. May at 8 p.m. Admission- Adults 3/- Children 1/6. If you can't afford to visit W.A. then sit back and enjoy seeing Western Wild Flowers this way.

OUTINGS. SATURDAY 21st. May: Flagstaff Hill-Tunnel Hill. Catch 9.45 a.m. Lindisfarne bus (outside Fitzgeralds) to next stop past Beltana Hotel. Party will come home on Bellarive bus. Leader: John Lewis. Through this country which is hilly but pleasant walking, E. Risdonii and lots of heathy plants grow in profusion.

SATURDAY 4th. June: Sandy Bay, Mt. Nelson, Bonnet Hill. Catch Sandy Bay bus, 9.30 a.m. Franklin Sq. and alight at Beach Rd. stop. Bird Watching day. Leader: David Wilson. Party will journey home via Tarcoona, where bus will be caught.

Ornithological Comment:

A seagull recently landed on a resident's lawn at Kingston. It was a sick bird and looked starved. The resident took a closer look and the bird was found to have had an injured leg, which was only half the trouble. The other leg was banded, with a band so tight that it had stopped the blood circulation, and the leg below the band was withering away. It is to be wondered how many other birds suffer the same unfortunate fate.

David Wilson.

Hon. Sec.

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB.

CIRCULAR NO. 44

JULY 1960

The next meeting of the Club will be held in the Royal Society's Rooms, Museum, Argyle St. on July 21st. 1960 at 8 p.m. Mr. PETER BOLGER will speak on GANNET COLONIES OFF THE NEW ZEALAND COAST, and will show colour slides of the Gannetts and some, also, of New Zealand's beautiful scenery.

The WEST AUSTRALIAN WILDFLOWER SHOW at the Town Hall was most successful, some 250/300 people attending. Our thanks go to Mr. Norman for giving us the opportunity to know more about the interesting wildflowers of the West.

OUTINGS. Saturday JUNE 18th. A bird day at Mr. Boss-Walker's home, Huon Rd. Catch the 10.00 a.m. bus to Fern Tree and alight at "St. Chad". Walk home will be by Ridgeway Road. See you there. Please bring something to eat for lunch. Leader Mr. John Lewis.

Saturday JULY 2nd. Marion Bay Beach. Private transport will leave outside the "Mercury" office in Macquarie St. at 9.30 a.m. All those who can help with transport, please let your leader know. Lunch to be taken, please. Marion Bay affords many interesting activities- a fine beach, shells, water birds, pelicans etc; on a ramble amongst the bush bordering the sandbanks perhaps those elusive winter orchids. Leader- Len Wall.

THANKS to Alan Hewer for a substantial donation to Club funds through his good work for Woolworths in the recent floods. Along with some Club lamps, Alan lent his own whilst there was no electricity in Town, meanwhile lending a hand to sort things out.

MOUNTAIN PARK. No doubt members will be pleased to read of the refusal by the Government to sell the land required for a hotel on Mt. Wellington.

NEW MEMBERS. A very warm welcome is extended to all those new members who have joined in our activities over the past few months. Bring your friends to meetings and outings if you wish. They will be most welcome.

David Wilson.

Hon. Sec.

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB.

Circular No.45

August 1960

The next meeting of the Club will be held in the Royal Society's Rooms, Museum, on Thursday, Aug. 18th, at 8 p.m. The Speaker will be Mr. M.S.R. SHALLAND and his subject will be
"THROUGH the MOUNTAINS of CANADA"

Past Outings. The day at St.Chad, home of Mr. & Mrs. Boss-Walker, proved that "a bird or more in the hand is much more exciting than two in the bush".

Heard in a shop one day! "There should be more of these car outings". Nearly 70 people turned out for the Marion Bay trip. Dozens of giant crabs, about 20" from nipper to nipper, were found, dead or alive, on the beach.

Mr. Len.Wall reports seeing a Dominican Gull on 26th.June at the abattoirs at Sorell. The bird looks like a Pacific Gull but has no black band on the tail (noticed when in flight) and it has a smaller bill- lighter yellow, rather than orange. This report is about the 4th. to be recorded in Tasmania.

Future Outings. SATURDAY 23rd. July. A trip to Blackman's Bay where we will beachcombe along the shoreline and then visit the hills beyond in search of wildflowers, fungi and wildlife. Catch 9 a.m. Blackman's Bay Bus from 137 Collins St.- returning on the 4.10 p.m. bus. Bring lunch and thermos. Leader- Mr. J.Lewis.

SATURDAY 6th. AUGUST. Seven Mile Beach-Mt. Rumney- Tunnel Hill. This trip for the more energetic. Mt. Rumney and foothills should provide plenty to see. Bring lunch and thermos or billy and water. Take 8.45 a.m. bus from 44 Collins St. (Grays). Return by Warrane Bus.Leader A. Howar.

HANDY HINTS FOR THE COLLECTOR.

Cleaning and Polishing Shells. Wash them in warm, soapy water and rub them up with a soft chamcis. Under no account should the outer surface be removed with acids. A few drops of machine oil on the polishing cloth, or even fine dental powder, will bring up the pattern and lustro of the shell.

When Classifying your Collection. A label should be attached, giving the locality, whether low, medium or high tide mark, the date and collectors name. If you find only a poor specimen, keep it until such time as you can replace it with a better one.

Useful Equipment. The following items might be handy on your shell gathering jaunts:

Jar or Billy Can. Magnifying Glass.
Pair of Forceps and small Ruler.
Small wad of Cotton Wool. A few Calico Bags.
Some glass Tubes with Cork Stoppers.
Knife. Notebook and Pencil.

David Wilson.
Hon.Sec.

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB

CIRCULAR NO. 46

SEPTEMBER 1960

The next meeting of the Club will be held in the Royal Society's Rooms, Museum, on Thursday, 15th, September 1960 at 8 p.m. It will be a "Members" Night, and at this early stage (so that it won't be too late!) we appeal for speakers, say about six, to give a talk, illustrated or otherwise, on any subject which would genuinely interest other members of the Club. Your Co-operation in providing speakers will be greatly appreciated by the Committee and the members will enjoy hearing from you, too.

Future Outings: SATURDAY, 20th. August. 10 a.m. Train to Hilton Road- Claremont and thence to Sky Farm. Return via Granton.

SATURDAY, 3rd. September. Geology Excursion. Leader from the University. Details to be announced at the Meeting or from Mr. L. Wall, Phone 84165.

Suggestion for Sunday Outings. The Club has considered this matter and it is apparent that quite a lot of younger members would not be able to attend trips on a Sunday, due to various circumstances. It has been decided, therefore, to shelve the matter for the present. However, it can be reviewed at a later date.

Gannets Talk. I am sure members gained a lot of new knowledge from the interesting talk by Mr. Peter Bolger on the N.Zealand Gannet Colonies. The Club can feel justly proud of the high standard maintained in the material provided by all speakers in the past.

Masked Owl. It is reported from Chauncey Vale that a masked owl was caught recently. This bird is not rare, but being nocturnal it is rarely seen. The bird has since been released.

Notes on the Potoroo: (*Potorcus tridactylus apicalis*) The Tasmanian animal (often called the Wallaby-Rat) represents a distinct sub-species—from *P. tridactylus*. It is distinguished by the considerably larger size, minor cranial and dental features, and the usually white-tipped tail to which the sub-specific name alludes. The name "Common" Rat-Kangaroo used for the mainland animal in most natural history books is now a mere mockery. Only protection and the absence of the fox in Tasmania can ensure the survival of this interesting relic of the ancient marsupial stock. (From Ellis Troughton's "Furred Animals of Australia".

John Lewis,
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Hobart.

David Wilson.
Hon. Secretary,
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Sandy Bay.
Phone 51945 (Home)
21690 (Business)

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB.

Circular No. 47

October 1960

The next meeting of the Club will be held in the Royal Society's Rooms, Tasmanian Museum, Argyle St. on Thursday October 20th. at 8 p.m.

After the business of the Meeting, Mr. Robert Mather will tell us something about TASMANIAN NATIVE ORCHIDS, and will show some of his very fine collection of colour slides. These promise to be very fine entertainment.

PAST OUTINGS. 40 or more members journeyed to Eaglehawk Neck on a geological outing under the expert leadership of Mr. Max. Banks of the University of Tasmania, and, from all reports, members know more about the tessellated pavements *than* ever before. This, the first of a new type of outing, with an advanced student, or an instructor, in some class of natural history as leader, proved a great success and we hope to have future outings of this type following a similar pattern.

The earlier August outing to Sky Farm etc. was enjoyed by the members who attended- even if the murk did spoil the view considerably.

FUTURE OUTINGS. Saturday 17th. Sept. McRobbies Gully. Cascades Bum- 9.30 a.m. from Franklin Square and alight at Brewery where Mr. John Lewis will meet you. Bring lunch.

Saturday 1st. October. 10 a.m. train to Granton- returning later in the afternoon on from Austin's Ferry. Party will walk back from Granton to Austin's Ferry along the waterline - main subjects for study- orchids and waterfowl. Leader- Mr. Ian. Wall.

Do you know? Dr. A. Nicholls appeared on T.V. the other day. He was presenting a parcel of wild flowers to a member of the Tasmanian Tourist Bureau. The flowers were being sent to San Francisco for an Australian Wild Flower Exhibition there.

Hon. Treasurer,
Mr. John Lewis,
Box 880J. G.P.O.
Hobart.
Business 'Phone 2 5846

David C.A. Wilson
Hon. Secretary.
570 Nelson Rd.
Sandy Bay.
Phone 5 1945 (Home)
2 1690 (Business)

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB.

Circular No.48

November, 1960

The Club extends a hearty welcome to all members who have joined the ranks over the past month, and hopes that all will come along on outings and take part in our activities.

The next meeting of the Club will be held in the Royal Society's Room, Museum, Argyle St. on Thursday, 17th. Nov. 1960. MR. MICHAEL RIDPATH, Officer in Charge-Hobart Section, will give a talk on some of the work being done by the WILDLIFE SECTION of the CSIRO in TASMANIA. Mr. Ridpath is a man of wide experience and he is able to impart his knowledge in a manner easily understood by even our youngest members: so bring the children too.

OUTINGS. SATURDAY 22nd. OCTOBER. Mt. Wellington... Alpine Areas. Kelsey Aves will lead a trip to the Big Bend. Please make your car available and meet outside the Mercury Office, Macquarie St. at 9.30 a.m. Members will go to the big bend on Wellington and from there... well its sure to be interesting. Miss Jean Galbraith, a prominent Victorian Botanist, will be present and much valuable information on plant life should be available.

SATURDAY 5th. November. Mt. Field National Park - Styx River. This is a BUS TRIP. Bookings to be made at Mr. Sargison's shop, Eliz. St. (Next door A.M.P. Buildings) before Wednesday 26th. October. 10/- deposit and your name and address, please. The booking of the bus must be done well in advance so please make sure you let us know (through Mr. Sargison) before Oct. 26th. The trip to the Styx area is a very interesting one from the naturalist's point of view... fine bush, birds and animals. A stop may be made at National Park in order that some members can fix names to certain trees in the vicinity of the Park Gates. (For information of visitors to the Park, this work has been undertaken by the Club with the approval of the Park Board.

THE ORCHID SHOW. Those of you who went to the Orchid Show will have enjoyed the display of fine blooms, but apart from the cultivated orchids, cymbidiums, etc., there was a small but most effective display of native orchids arranged by the TFNC. The Committee would like to thank all those who lent specimens in pots for the display and would like members and all interested to know that the TFNC decided against picking specimens this year - thus depleting the bush of its natural beauty - and used only what could be obtained from members who grow specimens at home.

ADULT EDUCATION BOARD GEOLOGY LECTURES. The Board has arranged a series of Seven Lectures in Elementary Geology for Bush Walkers. The lectures will be given by Mr. Max. Banks and Mr. M. Solomon. The course started on Tuesday, 18th. Oct. but enrolment can be made at the Adult Education Regional Office, 85 Elizabeth St. The fee is £1. 1. 0 for the course.

FIELD NATURALISTS' CAMP, FEDERATION CAMP. Information so far to hand indicates that the Federation Camp at Christmas will be held at Strahan this year. We hope to have some further details at an early date.

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TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB.

Circular No. 49

December 1960

FORWARD NOTICE. OF TRIPS.

SATURDAY 10th. December: Hope Beach- private transport- meet outside Mercury Office at 9.30 a.m. The Club will be very grateful to all those who can help with transport.

28th.- 29th.- 30th. JANUARY 1961: Camp in the Hastings Area. Will all interested in going to this area, please get in touch with John Lewis (at Woolworths). He will gladly supply further details.

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL. SATURDAY 10th. December 1960, at C.W.A. rooms, Criterion Street, at 8 p.m. Ladies- a plate, Gentlemen- 2/- Our Christmas gathering is always bright and a good time can be had by all. So, roll up, and wind up the year with Club friends. See you there!

Advice of Easter Camp 1961 Plans are being made to hold the 1961 Easter Camp at "Red Banks", Swansea, which is a delightful area, and full of interest to Field Nats. There are beaches, it is near the Meredith River, and the site, being private property, ensures privacy for campers. This notice is just to whet your appetite, because we'd like to have you think about it over the Xmas holidays- and next year we will talk you into "going into Camp".

Annual Meeting and Election of Officers. The Annual Meeting will be held on THURSDAY 16th. FEBRUARY 1961 at 8 p.m. in the Royal Society's Rooms, Museum, Hobart. Please think about whom you'd like to have as your Club Executive next year. Lodge your nominations with the Secretary or President, Mr. Len Wall, before the commencement of the February meeting. Nomination should have a seconder and must have the nominee's consent to serve.

The Offices to be filled are:-

President (1)	Vice Presidents (2)
Secretary (1)	Assistant Secretary (1)
Treasurer (1)	Committee Members (6)

Subscriptions to the Club are due at the time of the Annual Meeting and they may be paid to the Treasurer, or at Mr. Sargison's shop, 21 Elizabeth St. Fees are- 10/- Adults Married Couples 15/- , Juniors 5/- .

To all Members, Associates, and Friends,

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A BRIGHT AND PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR.

David Wilson.

John Lewis, Hon. Treasurer
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